

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

Presiding: Mayor Steven Adams

Meeting Via Internet and at City Hall Convened at 6:35 p.m.

Prayer: Councilwoman Nielsen

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilwoman Fogle

Present at City Hall and Online: Mayor Steven Adams; Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Councilors Joy M. Ball, Glenn Dayley, Connie Fogle, and Catherine Nielsen; Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson; City Building Inspector and P&Z Administrator Quinton Owens; Chairman Dave Thompson of the Planning and Zoning Commission; Attorney Chase T Hendricks; Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall; Sugar City Citizens Barbara Lusk, Kurt Hibbert, Bruce and Elaine King, Jill Moss, and Lawrence Nielsen, K Schultz, and others who joined electronically but not identified.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT: Councilwoman Nielsen was elected as council president and Joy Ball was elected vice president; motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes 12-10-2020 – removed from Consent Agenda

Review Payment Report –

Treasurer's Report – removed from Consent Agenda

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to approve the Consent Agenda; motion carried.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to approve the Treasurer's report; motion carried.

The 12-10-20 minutes were tabled until the next meeting to verify a missing motion.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Arlynn Jacobson reported on the following items:

Emergency Communication Cell Phone App: Mr. Jacobson presented a cell phone app called "My City Pocket" to the council which he would like to use for the city to send information (community news, local events, alerts) to citizens' smartphones. The cost is \$349/year. It is secure with unlimited messages and independent of Facebook and Twitter. The council will consider it at the second meeting in February.

Water Project: Mr. Jacobson felt the new well would be up and running within a month. The city is working with the Army Corp of Engineers grant to finish the SCADA system, pump, and meter radio readers.

City Equipment: Both the city tractor and grader had some work done last month. The tractor's front end went out and the grader is having trouble with the batteries.

South Lift Generator: The South Lift generator is now installed and working.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Dave Thompson reported on the following items.

Old Farm Estates Development Agreement: Planning and Zoning reviewed the revised Old Farm Estates Development Agreement and will set and public hearing after further discussion.

Highway 33 Business Annexation: Planning and Zoning will move forward on the Highway Business annexation as soon as some building projects started with the County are completed.

Work Meetings: There are several important items that the Planning and Zoning wish to address. They plan on holding work meetings to help facilitate the process.

Comprehensive Plan Survey: The commission will send out a survey to get citizen feedback on how they would like to see the city grow and develop. It is over 50 questions long and will be well advertised. The commission hopes to receive a good response.

Dark Sky Ordinance: The commission is discussing a “Dark Sky Ordinance” to reduce and regulate light pollution.

Planning and Zoning Members: The commission is still in need of members who would like to serve. They are also looking for a secretary and a vice president.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Sugar Salem New Jr. High: The council asked that water be provided for the school to help in case of fire emergencies and with building construction. The city is waiting on a signed Development Agreement. There is no objection to connecting just the fire hydrants.

Targhee Townhomes: A second row of townhomes is going up. There are some concerns about the private road (Huckleberry Road) and safety issues. These are being reviewed and handled by the City Engineer Dick Dyer and Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor’s Letter to Senator: Councilors Ball and Nielsen reported that although they did not necessarily oppose the mayor’s ideas in his January 4 letter to the Senator, they objected to his signing the letter as the mayor of Sugar City while expressing his personal views. Several members of the community agreed. However, the mayor reaffirmed his position on his right to express his opinions as the mayor of Sugar City.

PLANNING AND ZONING LAND USE CONSULTANT: Community Citizen Kurt Hibbert introduced himself to the council. He currently works as a land use consultant and facilitator. He would like to work with the city to help guide the Comprehensive Plan development, to identify values and best practices, and to reevaluate community priorities and well as code changes. The council will consider a contract at the 2nd meeting in February.

MEMORIAL TREE ACCOUNT: The council has set up a memorial tree account in behalf of Craig and Debbie Morgan or anyone else that the community would like to honor. A tree will be bought and planted next spring in behalf of the Morgans who passed away last month within five days of each other. Both had COVID 19.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE: The council received correspondence from Bruce King asking the council to consider adding the April 11, 2019 resignation letters of Councilwoman Ball, Councilman King, and Councilman Waddell to the district court’s decision against Councilmembers Vaun Waddell and Bruce King. Since the court decision is already available to the public, the council decided to attach the letters in a note to the May 23, 2019 minutes with a correction on the date of resignation to April instead of March as stated in the minutes. Councilwoman Nielsen will draft a letter to Bruce King to let him know the council’s decision and the addendum to be placed with the May 23, 2019 minutes.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Public Hearing Procedures for Planning and Zoning: City Attorney Chase Hendricks has prepared a memo of general questions on Planning and Zoning public hearing procedures for training and review for the council and commission.

CALENDARED ITEMS:

Second Discussion –

Building Code Updates: City Building Inspector Quinton Owens made several more updates to specify appendices, adopt “Tiny Homes” guidelines, and address flood insurance.

Water/Sewer Fee Code Amendments: City Engineer Dick Dyer is working with Clerk McLaughlin to update and amend the water/sewer fee code amendments. No new updates were reported.

COUNCIL MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS: The council will address most of the council assignments in detail at the next council meeting dedicated to organizing city committees.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Fogle and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to appoint Councilwoman Fogle to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Councilman Glenn Dayley to the Parks and Recreation Committee, and Councilwoman Ball to the Business Park Review Board; motion carried.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

CARES Grant Update: The city has requested to spend all of the \$46,400 allotted and is waiting to hear back from the state.

Madison County Sheriff’s Office: Madison County Sheriff’s office is considering moving their main office to their Sugar City office in the Business Park. A quicker response time is one of the reasons for the move. The mayor supports and encourages the move.

COVID 19 Update: Sugar City has received emergency communication radios from COVID money and the Madison County Sheriff’s office will have a special radio channel for Sugar City to use.

Moody Creek Produce Fire Update: The mayor received two reports on the Moody Creek fire. Both reports ruled the fire as accidental. Much of the building debris has been removed.

Code Enforcement: The mayor reminded the council that he intends to enforce the code with no exceptions and no special treatment. This will include continued ticketing and may include towing for parking violations.

COUNCILWOMAN FOGLE:

Local Emergency Planning Committee: District 7 received the first batch of vaccines on December 15 for the first responders. The second delivery of vaccines will be coming in the next few weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Signed: _____
Steven Adams, Mayor

Attested: _____
Wendy McLaughlin, Clerk-Treasurer